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The Non-Subscribing Presbyterian

No. 370.

JULY, 1937.

STEADFASTNESS.

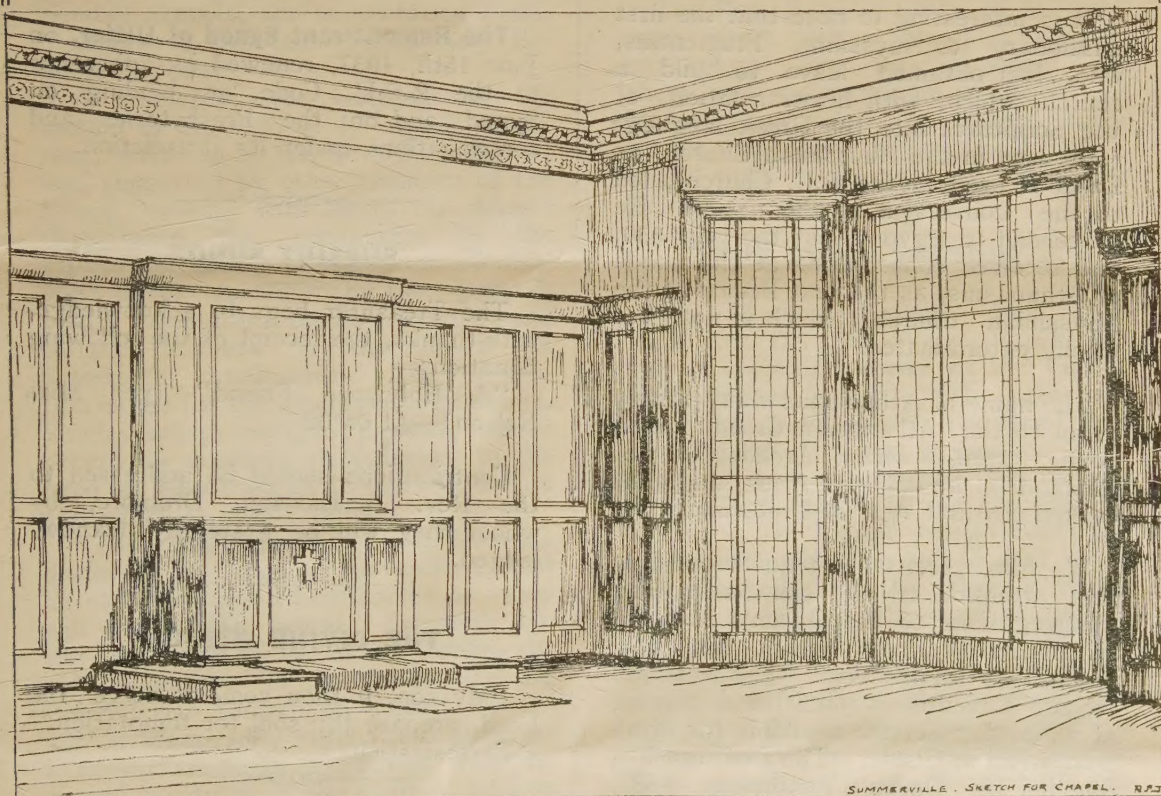
GENTLENESS.

DEVOTION.

"Steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work."—I. COR., 58.

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SUMMERVILLE. SKETCH FOR CHAPEL. R.T.

CHAPEL OF UNITARIAN COLLEGE, MANCHESTER.
BY COURTESY OF THE SECRETARY.

NOTES AND NEWS.

On the front page we present a sketch of the new chapel of the Unitarian College, Manchester. The design has been well chosen, and is one that spontaneously induces an atmosphere of reverence. The contributors to the cost, so far, have been past and present students, and almost half the needed amount has been raised. It is hoped that with the help of friends of the College the remainder will soon be obtained, making possible a permanent tribute to Dr. McLachlan, the Principal, who for a quarter of a century has served in the College with such high efficiency, and has not spared himself in doing valuable work in the churches.

It is interesting to note that the first missionary to Abyssinia, Frumentius, who had obtained leave to build a church, which, with his translation of the Scriptures into the Greek language (still used in the Abyssinian Church, as Latin is used in the R.C. Church), led to the conversion of the nation. He proceeded to Egypt about the year 330, and received consecration at the hands of Athanasius, as the first Bishop of the Abyssinian Church, which is not yet wholly exterminated.

The name of Athanasius was wrongly given to the Athanasian Creed. As a young man, when Archdeacon of Alexandria, he opposed Arius, and thus evoked the first type of Unitarianism.

We have received a request to draw the attention of the Non-Subscribing Congregations to the Queen's Institute of District Nursing, which has now reached its Jubilee Year. The Northern Ireland Executive Committee is aiming at a Nursing Service available for every homestead in Ulster. The Institute was founded by Queen Victoria in 1887, when she settled the sum of £70,000, raised and presented to her as a Jubilee gift by the women of Great Britain and Ireland as a capital fund for a Home Nursing Service. "For 50 years the Nurses have been carrying out their ministry of loving, patient service in the homes of the needy through-

out England, Scotland and Ireland. From day to day they discharge their duties in hot and cold weather, wind, rain or snow, alike in the crowded city and by the loneliest countryside, with a smiling face and a cheery word, and knowing no distinction of creed."

There comes a day for every one of us when skilled attention is a matter to be grateful for; for some it may be a prolonged period, for others it may be mercifully brief; but the appeal, we are sure, will not pass unheeded.

By the time this Magazine is published the annual meetings will have taken place, and our new Moderator duly installed. We wish him a very happy and prosperous year of office.

The Remonstrant Synod of Ulster, on June 15th, 1937, renewed its adherence to the R.S.U. Code, as binding on Synod and on the Presbyteries and congregations under its jurisdiction.

SUBSIDY FUND.

The Treasurer begs to acknowledge, with thanks, the receipt of the following donation:—

"A Holywood Friend" (per Miss Nelson)—£1 0s 0d.

Contributions should be addressed to the Rev. A. Davison, Dromore, by whom they will be gratefully acknowledged.

THE DIVINE WISDOM.

"My son, if thou come to serve the Lord, prepare thy soul for temptation."
—Ecclesiasticus.

August, 1937 Number published July 31st. Rev. J. Barron, Ballywalter, Co. Down, will receive copy sent in before July 24th.

Half-yearly Subscription for Magazine now due.

NON-SUBSCRIBING PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

The Business Meeting.

The Rev. E. Savell Hicks was elected Moderator at the business meeting of the General Synod on Wednesday, 16th June, in the First Presbyterian Church, upon the retirement of the Rev. Dr. A. L. Agnew, York Street.

The Rev. J. D. Davies, Moneyrea, was appointed Clerk to the Synod, and the Rev. J. Glynn Davies, Comber, treasurer.

The reports from the Presbyteries of Bangor, Templepatrick, Antrim, and the Synod of Munster were received and passed, as were also the reports on the Sunday Schools, the Sustentation Fund, Temperance and the Montgomery Bequest accounts.

A resolution was adopted on the motion of the Rev. J. J. Magill, Rade-mon, seconded by the Rev. John Barron, and supported by other members of the Synod, viewing with alarm the danger threatening the community by the rapidly increasing consumption of alcoholic liquor as shown by the growing yearly expenditure on its purchase, and by the increase in the number of arrests for drunkenness. The resolution called for the attention of ministers, Sunday school teachers, parents, and all occupying positions of influence to the need for education as to the real nature and effect of strong drink.

"The enormous forces of scientific discovery and modern inventions must be sanctified and Christianised or they will destroy the world," declared the Rev. E. Savell Hicks, M.A., Dublin, the new Moderator of the Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Church of Ireland, speaking on Wednesday night, 16th June, at a conversazione in connection with the annual meetings of the Church, held in the Central Hall, Rosemary Street, Belfast.

The Moderator said there were tendencies in the world, social and religious, which they all deplored as being subversive of all that was best in religion and life. They could not be driven out by the gun, the bayonet, or poison gas. That which sprung from the mind

could only be overcome in the mind. The spirit of revenge, hatred, and fear had the world in its grip, a spirit that could neither forgive nor forget, and which lived in the past instead of living in the future.

For the future of religion the Moderator said he had no fear. The Christian religion had existed for many thousands of years, and it was not going to perish in our time. Men's souls would never be satisfied with mere negotiations. What was wanted was more of the spirit of the living Christ in the world affairs — Christ the peacemaker in international relations, the softening influence in business and commercial relations, and the spirit of tolerance in religion.

The Rev. R. Nicol Cross, M.A., Rosemary Street, Belfast, also addressed the gathering. Tea was provided, and there was a programme of music and elocution provided by Misses Eileen Irvine and Betty Norman and Mr. J. Laird, with Miss Kennedy as accompanist.

THE SYNOD LECTURE.

On Tuesday evening, June 15th, 1937, Rev. Dr. Cyril Flower, late Professor at Oxford, lectured in the Central Hall, Belfast; subject, "The Cross and the Kingdom of God." The Right Rev. Dr. Agnew, retiring Moderator, presided, and in introducing the lecturer paid a high tribute to the magnetic influence of Dr. Flower over students and others with whom he had to deal, citing the testimony of the Rev. Margaret Barr, who lectured the night previous in the same place on "The Khasi Hill Mission." It was this same influence which had induced her to enter the ministry. Dr. Flower read an article in "The Times" by one who was writing from himself as to the recovery of religion, and who said that after many years of indifferentism, of formalism, and blind acceptance of dogma, there was a strong tendency at work, bringing people back to the very heart of Christianity itself. The article had been a Good Friday theme on "The Cross," and there were points in the article that had specially appealed to

the lecturer. The Cross in churches was a familiar symbol. It might appear in gold embroidered on a pulpit cloth, or on a Communion table, or in stone, as part of the architecture of the building. There it was ornamental. But was it realized what the Roman Cross was? Something cruel, torturing by a lingering, painful death the culprit; harsh, terrible. Yet no unprejudiced reader of the Gospels could deny that the death of Christ was the central theme of the narrative; that it culminated in the death on the cross. It was not from the disciple we would learn the inner meaning of the mystery of the Cross, but by self-realisation, passing through the traditions and doctrines, until, going beyond all outer form, we contacted the life, the reality of that fulfilment of the Divine Will in the death on the Cross. It had nothing to do with ideas that had been popular, and often taken for the Gospel itself, that if you believed and accepted the sacrifice as having been made for you, then you could die happy in the assurance that heaven awaited you.

The Teacher had gone to the bitter end, He had proclaimed His Gospel, and that had brought Him to the Cross. "Jesus came out of Galilee preaching the glad tidings of the Gospel of God." What was that Gospel? A love that embraced all in one-ness, however diverse -- Ulster Presbyterian, Roman Catholic, Abyssinian, Spaniard, German -- all races and conditions. He did not preach: "Accept your lot in life with patience and give deference to those who are socially higher." If he had preached that, they would have made him High Priest instead of crucifying Him.

That fire, that spirit, that unquenchable enthusiasm was not slain with the death of the body. It entered into his true disciples. After the crucifixion followed the resurrection of the life that found vent in the lives and work of His followers. The spreading abroad of this Gospel of the Kingdom, which meant real brotherhood, higher than any political panacea, but the spontaneous sharing in the glory and richness of earthly life with our brother-man. Our life was a segment of the eternal

life; we were in "The Eternal Now." The wrong we did was like poison thrown into the stream of life. Of the cross we could say: "In this sign I conquer."

SUNDAY SCHOOL CONFERENCE.

The Sunday School Conference was held at Killinchy on June 5th. The weather proved very favourable, and a large company assembled in the spacious Church. The devotions were conducted by the Rev. D. J. Williams, and the Moderator, the Rev. Dr. A. L. Agnew, presided.

Following the adjudication of the essays by the Rev. R. N. Cross, M.A., Mrs. Williams distributed the prizes to the following:— Miss Betty Dempster, Comber; Miss Anna Robinson, Glenarm; Elizabeth M'Mullan, Glenarm; Miss Betty M'Alpine, Newry; Ethel L. Moore, Roberta Moore, Wilson Proctor, and Moyna Proctor, all four from Ballyclare; Stanley and Sydney M'Mullan, Downpatrick; Morris Cobain, Stanhope Street; Robina Palmer, Crumlin; Eileen Moore, Rosemary Street, and Jean Davidson, Comber. The Rev. John Hinkins, M.A., Crumlin, gave an interesting and helpful demonstration of class teaching, and his youthful scholars responded very well. It was an interesting experiment worthy of repetition at a future Conference.

The Moderator proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Hinkins, Mr. Cross, Mrs. Williams and the Convener for their assistance, and, not least, to the minister and congregation of Killinchy for their welcome and hospitality. Some partook of an excellent tea in the Bishop Hall, but a large number enjoyed their tea sitting on forms conveniently placed outside in the sunshine, and amid the freshness of the countryside.

Our gratitude is due to the ladies of the Killinchy congregation for their excellent preparations and for the warmth of their welcome to us all. It was a most helpful and enjoyable Conference.

"It's talk that divides, it's work that unites."

UNITED SERVICE.**Rev. Herbert Barne's Address.**

Preaching from the text: "In that day shall there be upon the bells of the horses 'Holiness Unto The Lord. . . yea, every pot in Jerusalem and Judah shall be 'Holiness Unto The Lord of Hosts,'" the Rev. Herbert Barnes said: Dealing with the historical background of the text, the prophet was facing a pessimistic mood in the life of his nation. To that mood he issued the amazing challenge of what that nation might yet become if the people stood true to their old allegiances. It might be the fashion to-day to despise the Jews, but that was not the fashion of thoughtful people. Harried and persecuted and tormented, their treatment from the beginning until now had reflected no credit on our supposedly superior faith. It was well to be reminded that the Jewish race had given the world some of the greatest things that matter. They had a moral grandeur and a spiritual fidelity that even our own nation could not afford to overlook.

Therefore, in an age which was talking much of reconstruction and recovery men would do well to remember the Jewish revelation—that the only enduring forces known to man were the forces of the spirit. Spiritual quality and moral power were the only forces that had survival value. "I underline this fact about humanity as I study the human story," he said. "Man has always had a persistent and haunting dream. It has been a dream of the City of God, the ideal life, the settled perfection. That dream has followed humanity, and refuses to be left behind. Through the trials and tribulations of present-day world problems the dream still follows us and disturbs us. Religion will not let us go."

"I am going to suggest that it is from this angle that the Church should view its present-day duty to the world. We must realise that the first reconstruction required is a reconstruction of the mind and spirit. Without that everything else is in vain, for without it the social and national and international machinery will not work. The

terrible events of the day are showing that scientific progress may only be an added peril without the spiritual element to control and elevate it—that education alone does not prevent the western nations from barbarism—that even democracy may only be the exchange of one tyranny for another. A new mind and a new spirit alone offer hope. It is the task of the Churches to produce that new mind and spirit. It is out of these spiritual regions that the issues of life come. I look out upon the world to-day, and I predict one need—a return to a religion that is vital and alive and simple."

"Only that kind of religion can transform the world! How can we expect men who are not themselves renewed in spirit to transform the world? How can we expect men who think in terms of war to create a world of peace? How can we expect men to bring in a day of universal brotherhood who are not themselves transformed out of their conformity to the world's fear and selfishness? Religion is the thing that renews the mind and spirit; it is the thing that gives fresh powers; it is the one and only transforming thing. If any man needs to be convinced of the world's need of a vital religion he has only to look at the tragedy of the unsolved problems of the world — unsolved because religion has not been made to count. Humanity needs the moral ideal of religion; it needs the insistence upon the dignity and worth of human personality; it needs to believe afresh that we are our brothers' keeper. It needs a fresh apprehension of God and a new baptism of the Holy Spirit. It needs to be taken from the self-centre to the God-centre."

"If religion was never more needed than now, there follows this corollary:— That a vital Church was never more needed. God knows there are many things in the world to distress us and give us pause! There are many forces arrayed against the Kingdom of Light and Love. But it is for man's ultimate destiny of good that we labour, and the Churches must go on witnessing for the right and true. To that end may we once more consecrate our Churches and dedicate our lives."

CORRESPONDENCE.

(To the Editor of the "N.S.
Presbyterian").

Sir,—It is time there was some plain speaking on the matter of the United Service in the Ulster Hall.

All our Churches are closed for this Service. The best preacher available is got, and the meeting is advertised as a "Great United" one. Members of the public turn up and they observe the Hall half empty. There is naturally much adverse comment and the impression is created that we are a declining cause.

This is entirely false. There are three Congregations in Belfast, one of which has packed the Hall to overflowing each year for the past ten years without a special preacher and there are a dozen large congregations within an hour's easy run from Belfast. It is plainly a matter of lack of organisation or enthusiasm or both.

Some Congregations are apparently totally unrepresented even by their Ministers. Ministers are the first to complain and suffer because of the lack of life in our Churches but they cannot expect enthusiasm where they will make no effort themselves. It would be interesting to know how many Ministers announced the Service and referred to it in their sermons, and urged on their people the necessity of making the Service a success.

The Service should also be a rally of our people in friendly intercourse afterwards. One Congregation was asked to cater for all the Country people. Not a single intimation was received there as to who might turn up. Preparations were made to entertain up to three hundred. Practically no one turned up. We can imagine the difficulty of persuading such a Congregation to take anything to do with the Service in future. This may be the fault of no individual, but it could be avoided. Why is it not made a part of the visiting Minister's plain duty to proceed to the gathering afterwards, and why cannot it be announced that he will be there? This would lead to many going. The Service is over before 8.30,

and only in rare cases have people not an hour to spare on a Sunday night. Our people have few opportunities for meeting and on the one occasion they have, they might take a little pains to do so if only in compliment to those who have been asked to go to much trouble to entertain them.

Plain facts and suggestions of this kind may not be welcome, but if we are satisfied with a demonstration of our weakness such as we have seen, it would be better to stop the Service, and admit we cannot hold one, and that all our Churches together cannot provide one decent congregation. If we are not satisfied then we must be prepared to take some pains to improve matters. We wish to be a living Body, but we are not prepared to leave our firesides or spare an hour or show a little friendliness to become one. It would be as easy for most who are not there to be there as it is for some who are there and easier. The result is that next year even those who have made an effort will not do so, and thus we go on. I hear that one Congregation which provides a good part of the audience, may not close in future. They will then be accused of disloyalty by the very people who could have attended at far less sacrifice.

I regret this letter but it is time, something was said and unless we are willing to face facts we must put up with the common assertion that we are a dying cause.

Yours etc.,

"PLAIN MAN."

S. & J. HEWITT

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REPORT.

All Souls', Belfast.—Rambles on Wednesday evenings are growing in popularity. These are all the more interesting when accompanied by a teacher of botany or some other science. The Sunday School outing this year is to Ballygally, on Saturday, July 3rd. The 1,000 Shilling Fund on behalf of necessary repairs to heating apparatus grows apace. A flowering cherry tree, presented by Mr. W. T. Barry, was planted in front of the Church on Coronation Day, May 12th. A clock for the Committee Room has been presented by Miss Carmichael.

* * *

Ballycarry.—The Children's Day Service was held on the 1st Sunday in June. The preacher was the Rev. John Begg, of Larne, who in place of the second Lesson gave a very interesting address to the children. The Church was decorated with flowers tastefully carried out by the members of the Sunday School and Choir. The Service was attended by the local detachments of Cubs and Girl Guides. There was a large congregation, which very much appreciated the preacher for the day. Mr. W. P. Campbell, of Whitehead, officiated at the organ.

* * *

Ballee.—The Annual Congregational Meeting was held on April 14th, and an adjourned meeting for further business on June 13th the Minister presiding. The usual business was transacted, the balance sheet adopted, and the necessary elections effected. A report of the year's work included reference to the installation of a modern lighting system in the Church, Schoolroom, and Manse. Equipment in the way of crockery, tables and chairs had been obtained. Numerous events had brought the congregation together in fellowship during the year. An excursion to Newcastle in the summer, whist drives, and a jumble sale in the winter had all been successful events. Special evening services had been held during the winter months, and had been well attended. Thanks were due, and given, to the hon. organist, Mr. R. McCullen, and to the choir for their appreciated

help and cooperation. Reference was also made to the work of the Sunday School, under the superintendence of the minister, and to a library which had been opened for the use of members and of residents in the locality of Ballee. A cordial vote of thanks to the Minister was carried with acclamation. On April 25th the congregation had the pleasure of a visit from the Rev. J. A. Kelly, who, at short notice, occupied the pulpit during Mr. Simpson's indisposition. The Ballee Sunday School scholars attended the Coronation celebrations at Downpatrick on May 12th. Our cordial thanks are due to Miss M. Chambers for arranging the transport of the children. On May 17th the scholars assembled in the Ballee Schoolroom for their Coronation party. Following upon a wholesome, ample tea, there were games and races. Hearty thanks are accorded the friends who made the event possible. It is with deep regret that we record the passing of Mr. John Henry Chambers, at Heaton Moore, Cheshire, on May 29th. A memorial service attended by members of his family and a goodly gathering of friends was held at Ballee on June 1st. The service was conducted by the minister, the Rev. Charles Simpson, and an address was given by the Rev. J. A. Kelly, a life-long friend of Mr. Chambers. The remains were cremated at the Stockport Crematorium, Manchester, on June 1st. Mr. Chambers is survived by his wife and four daughters. To the members of his family and to all who mourn the loss of him we offer our very sincere sympathy. The name of John Henry Chambers will long be honoured in our midst.

* * *

First Presbyterian Church, Belfast.

The Services at the First Church, Belfast, on Sunday, July 18th, will be taken by Dr. N. Bishop Harman, F.R.C.S., LL.D., of London, who is visiting the city in connection with the meeting of the British Medical Association, of which he is the treasurer. Dr. Harman is also president for 1937-1938 of the General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches. He is a distinguished Harley Street Ophthalmic Surgeon in London, and a

notable man, who has written on "Science and Religion," and published a volume of poems. He is one of our best known laymen over there, and has rendered real help to our cause for years by voluntarily taking Sunday Services at the little village where he spends his week-ends out of London. As an eminent medical man, but especially as President of our General Assembly in England, it is hoped that friends from all round will gather at 11.30 a.m. or 7 p.m. to welcome him, and show our appreciation of all he has done, and respect for his office.

* * *

Clough. — Centenary Services take place on Sunday, June 20th, 1937. Morning, 12 o'clock, Rev. Dr. A. L. Agnew; Evening, 7 o'clock, Rev. J. Dare Davies (former minister). Collections for Sunday School.

* * *

DOMESTIC MISSION.

Gifts of flowers by friends and members were artistically arranged to beautify the Church for the Annual Flower Services on Sunday, May 30th.

The afternoon Service was conducted by Rev. Dr. A. L. Agnew, Moderator of the Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Church in Ireland. This was his first visit in that capacity, and the large congregation, including visitors from city churches, listened with rapt attention to his interesting address. Rev. F. Munford, B.A., who has assisted us on a number of previous occasions, gave a most helpful address at Evening Service. The choir, under the leadership of Mrs. J. Sherlock, greatly enriched the services by effectively rendering anthems. The help of Miss Cathcart as visiting soloist was greatly appreciated.

Our Sunday School was represented in the list of awards for Annual Essay Competitions by Morris Tobain, who for the second time has been a successful competitor.

Twenty from our Mission attended the Sunday School Conference at Killinchy. In this group we were pleased to include several of our senior pupils, and all teachers who were free on Saturday afternoon.

The Women's League (Mission Branch) annual outing was held at

Portrush under most favourable conditions. The day was all that could be desired, and everyone present enjoyed the visit to the seaside.

The ladies in charge are to be congratulated on the excellent arrangements, which ensured success of this event.

W.E.

OBITUARY.

Mr. Andrew Porter Logan, M.R.C.V.S.

We record with deep regret the death of Mr. Andrew Porter Logan, M.R.C.V.S., the result of a motor accident, which occurred on Saturday, May 29th. The funeral, which was very extensive—a fine tribute to his popularity and the esteem in which he was held by all sections of the community — took place on Tuesday, June 1st, to the New Cemetery, Ballyclare. Rev. A. M. Bell officiated in the house and at the graveside.

Mr. Alex. Ellis.

We have to record the passing of an old and valued member of our congregation in the person of Mr. Alex. Ellis, at the advanced age of 86 years. Throughout his life, Mr. Ellis took an active and keen interest in all the affairs of the Church. For many years he was secretary and treasurer, and carried out the duties attached to this office most assiduously in every detail, until during the last few years of failing health he was compelled to retire from every kind of mental and physical activity. In his best days of health and strength he was very rarely absent from his seat in the Church of which he was choirmaster and instructor. It was in his early boyhood that he came to Ballycarry with his parents from the Glenarm district, and during those years he attended the Ballycarry Day School of the Old Presbyterian Church, and there received his elementary education. Leaving school, he secured a situation at the Railway Station, and by persistent and persevering industry at length rose to the important position of Superintendent of the Stores of the Northern

Counties Railway. This position he retained throughout his active life until he reached the age which compelled his retirement with pension. Mr. Ellis was a bachelor. He was of a studious and quiet disposition. In his garden he found great delight. He had also his books, many of which were of historical interest. He loved to delve into the details and curiosities of any old literature—indeed, he always preferred the old to the new in most things. A man of very frugal habits, he detested waste and extravagance, which he rightly considered to be one of the great social evils of modern times. He thus exemplified in his life the old-fashioned virtues of thrift and self-help, which, it may be said, had much to do with his unvarying good health during so many years. He leaves two married sisters, who reside in the Free State.

WOMEN'S LEAGUE.

Visit of Rev. M. Barr, M.A.

Miss Barr addressed a large gathering of ministers and members of the Ulster District, by the kind invitation of Mrs. Gardner, President of the Ulster District League at her house, "Glenard," Holywood, on Friday, June 11th. This gathering, which was of a very social nature, created much interest in Miss Barr's work.

The quarterly meeting was held at Banbridge on Saturday, June 12th, when the address in the Church was given by Miss Barr. Delegates' reports were afterwards given in the schoolroom, following tea.

Service at Larne on Sunday morning was taken by Miss Barr, and in the evening at First Church, Rosemary St., followed by a talk at the York Street Social Hour at 8.30 p.m. Monday night again saw Miss Barr at a crowded meeting in the Central Hall, Rosemary Street.

"It has often been pointed out that the one who argues most vehemently for a certain point of view is the one who is not certain that he is right."

HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

"Proceedings of Presbyterian Historical Society 1935-36." (Includes N.S.P. Church). Rev. J. A. Kelly, a Vice-President. On the list: Barron, Rev. J.; Begg, Rev. J.; Kelly, Rev. J. A. "We are greatly pleased to report that we have acquired the original "Minutes of the Presbytery of Bangor," covering the period 1774-1803. These important records contain much congregational history as well as references to local events of a highly interesting nature. For this valuable contribution we are indebted to the Rev. J. A. Kelly, of Dunmurry, who has maintained a deep interest in the work of the Society for many years, and has often aided it by his wise counsel and kindly advice."

The N.S.P. Church is entitled to use a safe, at the Assembly Hall, for important Church documents.

CONTRASTS.

Outside in the street the children played noisily, calling with raucous voices one to another, trundling hoops, whipping tops, peddling up and down the concrete roadway or squeaking tricycles or scooters, throwing balls against the Mission walls or across the street, or dashing in shrieking gangs from street to street in aimless, turbulent pursuit. The light breeze swept dirty scraps of paper in dusty whirls to add to the litter of banana skin and orange peel already fouling the gutter. Slatternly women lounged in doorways, dirty aprons girding shapeless figures, dirty faces under untended hair shading the summer sunshine. On the steps outside one house sat a half-witted woman in rags and bare feet, heedless of her shame. At street corners groups of men, unshaven and unwashed, gossiped of heaven knows what, fouling the pavement with tobacco juice. The glorious sun shone out of a cloudless sky and gamin' sparrows twittered in the eaves.

Inside the Mission Church the same sun shone through the coloured windows on to the shining morning faces

of the small congregation. The little church would be crowded at night but the morning holds duties to rousy housewives, but makes sluggards or wage-earners condemned to early-rising throughout the week and exhausted with cinema or football held on the previous half-holiday. Jerusalem or Ireland's Saturday Night occupied some of the men-folk, no doubt, but anyway they leave church-going and that sort of thing to the women-folk and the young people.

The same sun shone on a myriad gay blooms adorning the little church, for to-day is Flower Sunday. And at the baptismal font, in the arms of her adoring father, lies the rarest flower in the place, a little bud of maidenhood, dark-haired and blue-eyed as the gracious lady whose name she is to bear—Elizabeth, Queen of England—Elizabeth, whose sweet smile and gentle bearing has endeared her to countless millions and who has been in our thoughts so often of late. What a glorious ideal of womanhood for this scrap of humanity to follow.

The same sun shines on the Missioner, grown grey in the service of God, grown wise in experience of joy and sorrow. And as we bow our heads for the Benediction of the "Peace which passes all understanding, the shouts of the children at play in the streets outside once again shatter the silence within.

E. R. J.

A Rover Scout found a ticket of admission to the Coronation Service, with presence of mind he made his way to the entrance of the Abbey, without delay, and was just in time to save a lady the embarrassment of being refused admission. At the moment she was busy explaining to the authorities what had happened; great was her pleasure when an usher asked her, "Is this the lost ticket?"

* * *

Lord Baden-Powell, the Chief Scout, has been awarded the Order of Merit by His Majesty King George VI. The Order is held by only eight people.

— The Unitarian and — Free Christian Men's League.

— : —

BELFAST CHAPTER

meets in the CENTRAL HALL, ROSEMARY STREET, at 8 p.m., Third Thursday of the month, October to May, inclusive.

OBJECTS (inter alia).

To encourage laymen to take a more active part in the work of the Churches.

To form a bond of union and closer co-operation between the members of the various congregations.

The Committee invite those who are not all ready members to join. The minimum subscription is 2/6, and further particulars may be obtained from—

MR. J. H. GILLILAND,

35 Rosemary St., Belfast, Hon. Sec.

MR. J. EDMONDSON, Jr., Asst. Hon. Sec.
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Last winter was one of the severest on record. Life-boats were launched 468 times to the help of vessels in distress. The life-boat service in the course of its history has rescued over 64,700 lives from shipwreck. A penny a head of the people of the British Isles would meet its requirements.

* * *

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